## **Big Cypress**

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

**Big Cypress National Preserve** Florida 33100 Tamiam Trail East Ochopee, FL 34141

239-695-1107 602-803-4270



# 05/02/2011 Jarhead Fire Update

Southwest Area Incident Management Team Incident Commander: Dugger Hughes Public Information Officer: Jim Payne

#### **General Information/Announcements:**

The Jarhead fire within Big Cypress National Preserve has burned approximately 10,080 acres (as of 1:00 p.m. 5/1/11) in the central portion of the Preserve and is 15 percent contained. Suppression actions have limited any spread to the north; however, the fire continues to spread to the south and west. Incident priorities include firefighter safety, protecting private property as well as threatened and endangered species, and natural and cultural resources. Resource advisors will work with crews to assess resource impacts and appropriate firefighting tactics.

#### Closures/Advisories:

All primary and secondary trails in the vicinity of the fire are closed to the public. The closure encompasses all areas west of Oasis Trail, east of the Turner River Road, south of I-75 and north of U.S. 41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area.

## **Today's Activity:**

Crews are concentrating on protecting private property and are attempting to keep the fire west of Oasis Trail, south of Little Deer area, and east of Monument and Monument Bypass Trails. Crews are conducting burnout operations along the Oasis Trail from the perimeter of the fire to the Rock Road junction and along the Buckskin Trail as the fire advances southwards. Crews are also focusing on structure protection for NPS Grimm, Grass Huts, and Blockhouse hunting camps. Aerial ignition may be implemented at times to minimize damage and enhance firefighter and public safety.

#### **Public Safety Message:**

Please be aware of and observe area closures in effect due to aerial and fire fighting operations. Drivers on U.S. 41 may experience smoke and should exercise extreme caution while driving. Please slow down as firefighting equipment and staff are using U.S. 41.

## **Partners/Cooperators**

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Everglades National Park, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ochopee Fire District, Everglades City Fire District, Florida Division of Forestry, Collier County Sheriff's Department, Collier County Emergency Operations Center.

## **Quick Fire Facts:**

Date started: 04/27/2011

Location: Center of Big Cypress National Preserve

Percent Contained: 15%

Estimated Containment Date: none at this time

Cause: lightning

Size: approximately 10,080 acres (as of 5/1/11)

Number of Personnel: 138

Equipment: four fire suppression swamp buggies, five Type 6 Engines

Aircraft: one Type 1 helicopter, two Type 2 helicopters

Injuries to Date: one (minor)

The Southwest Area Incident Management Team took responsibility for fire suppression on 5/1/2011.

### For More Information

http://www.nps.gov/bicy/naturescience/fire-activity-and-related-closures.htm